

(c) An inspection to determine the condition and suitability of shipboard cargo gear will be made by a marine inspector at each inspection for certification. Inspections may be made at such other times as considered necessary by the Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection.

(d) For vessels fitted with cargo gear, an initial test of the assembled units under proof loads shall be conducted, followed by a complete dismantling or disassembling of such gear and a thorough examination of the parts to ascertain its condition. Subsequent tests of the assembled units under proof loads, followed by a dismantling or disassembling of such gear and a thorough examination shall be made once every five years, or oftener if necessary.

[CGFR 65-50, 30 FR 16974, Dec. 30, 1965, as amended by CGD 87-089, 55 FR 21550, May 25, 1990]

§ 91.37-3 Definitions of terms and words used in this subpart.

(a) *Cargo gear.* The term "cargo gear" includes masts, stays, booms, winches, cranes, elevators, conveyors, standing and running gear forming that part of the shipboard cargo gear used in connection with the loading or unloading of a vessel. This term does not include material handling gear and rigging of special design vessels used solely in dredging, pile driving, drilling for mineral deposits, and construction work.

(b) *Dismantling or disassembling of gear.* The "dismantling" or "disassembling" of gear contemplated is the taking apart of units of gear to the extent necessary to determine the suitability of such gear for continued service and as may be specifically required to carry out the intent of a particular regulation on this subpart. After proof load tests the disassembling need not include the sheaves and pins of the blocks included in the test unless there appears to be evidence of deformation or failure.

(c) *Thorough examination.* The "thorough examination" contemplated is a visual examination, supplemented if necessary by other means such as by a hammer test or by a test with electronic or ultrasonic devices.

(d) *Ton.* The word "ton" means a ton of 2,240 pounds.

(e) *Safe working load.* The "safe working load" (SWL) contemplated is the load the gear is approved to lift, excluding the weight of the gear itself.

§ 91.37-5 Tests and examinations of shipboard cargo gear.

(a) For vessels fitted with cargo gear and without valid cargo gear certificates and registers issued by organizations or associations recognized by the Coast Guard, inspections shall be made by competent persons described in § 91.25-25(c) (1) and (2) to determine the condition and suitability of the shipboard cargo gear. For the initial and subsequent fifth year inspections, all the cranes, winches, hoists, derrick booms, derrick and mast bands, and all parts used in loading or unloading cargo shall be assembled in units and such assembled units shall then be tested under proof loads. The proof loads shall be handled for various types of units as required by specific regulations in this subpart. After the proof load tests of the assembled units of gear have been made, such gear shall be disassembled or dismantled so as to permit them to be thoroughly examined. The sheaves and pins of the blocks included in these proof load tests need not be removed unless there appears to be evidence of deformation or failure.

(b) For vessels fitted with cargo gear and holding valid cargo gear certificates and registers issued by organizations or associations recognized by the Coast Guard, the marine inspectors may accept such certificates as prima facie evidence of compliance with the requirements in this subpart. If an Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection, is in doubt as to the condition and suitability of shipboard cargo gear for such a vessel, the tests and examinations, or such portions thereof as deemed necessary, provided for in this subpart will be required.

(c) If any part or portion of the gear fails or becomes defective during such tests, such defective equipment shall be satisfactorily repaired or replaced.

[CGFR 65-50, 30 FR 16974, Dec. 30, 1965, as amended by CGD 87-089, 55 FR 21550, May 25, 1990]